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Työn nimi-Arbetets titel-Title Integration and Sovereignty : A Historical Analysis of the State in the European Integration Process from ECSC to EU		
Oppiaine-Läroämne-Subject Political Science		
Työn laji-Arbetets art-Level Master's thesis	Aika-Datum-Month and year 2000-03-01	Sivumäärä-Sidantal-Number of pages 93 s.
Tiivistelmä-Referat-Abstract This thesis proposes a historical analysis of the state in the European Community (EC) integration process. It deals with theories of integration and sovereignty, analysing the interaction of national governments and the supranational framework of the EU. It proposes that the EC integration process is without precedent in modern European history and fundamentally affects the way that states act as sovereign units. It argues that states largely control the integration process, although this is mitigated by the fact that the integration process also has its own dynamic. The historical analysis in this thesis is partly chronological dealing first with early integration and working through to the contemporary period. It is also partly thematic dealing with the various themes; economic, political and legal that have shaped the process. Finally the analysis in this thesis is based on a consideration of the many academic debates which have marked every period of the integration process.		
Avainsanat-Nyckelord-Keywords European Union - member states sovereignty - states - Europe political integration - Europe Euroopan unioni - jäsenvaltiot suvereniteetti - valtiot - Eurooppa poliittinen integraatio - vaikutukset - Eurooppa		
Säilytyspaikka-Förvaringsställe-Where deposited		
Muita tietoja-Övriga uppgifter-Additional information		